# UNITEDSTATESOFAMERICA FEDERALENERGYREGULATORYCOMMISSION

AllianceCompanies,etal.	)	
and	)	DocketNo.EL02 -65-000
NationalGridUSA	)	
AllianceCompanies,etal.	)	DocketNo.RT01 -88-000
	)	

PROTEST,MOTIONANDNOTICESOFINTERVENTIONOF
THESTATEOFMICHIGAN,THEMICHIGANPUBLICSERVICE
COMMISSION,THEILLINOISCOMMERCECOMMISSION,THEINDIANA
UTILITYREGULATORYCOMMISSION,THEOKLAHOMACORPORATION
COMMISSION,THEPUBLICSERVICECOMMISSI ONOFTHE
COMMONWEALTHOFKENTUCKY ANDTHEMINNESOTADEPARTMENT
OFCOMMERCE

Pursuant to Rules 211 and 214(2) of the Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the State of Michigan, the Michigan

Public Service Commission, the Illinois Commerce Commission, the Indiana Utility

Regulatory Commission, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, the Public Service

Commission of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the Minnesota Department of

Commerce (collectively "Midwest State Commissions") file their motions to intervene,

notices of intervention and joint protest in the above -captioned proceedings. In support

thereof, Midwest State Commissions state as follows:

## **SERVICEANDCOMMUNICATIONS**

Service of all pleadings, documents, and communi cations in this matter shall be

madeatthefollowingaddress:

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### II.

### **INTERVENTION**

The State of Michigan ("Michigan") is a sovereign state of the United States and intervenes in its *parens patriae* capacity to preserve and protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens and in its proprietary capacity as a substantial purchaser of electricity. Michigan hereby moves to intervene. The Minnesota Department of Commerce, which is authorized by Min. Stat. § 216A.085 to advocate for gas and electric utility regulation affecting the State of Minnesota, hereby moves to intervene.

The Michigan Public Service Commission, the Illinois Commerce Commission, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hereby give their notices of its intervention pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.214(a)(2)(2001).

## III.

## INTRODUCTION

OnMarch6,2002,theAllianceCompanies <sup>1</sup> andNationalGridUSA(collectively "the AllianceCompanies" or "Petiti oners") petitioned the Commission to issue an order finding that the relationship they propose between themselves and the Midwest ISO ("MISO") provides an appropriate basis for the participation of Alliance GridCo in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Alliance Companies are comprised of Ameren Services Company (on behalf of Union Electric CompanyandCentralIllinoisPublicServiceCompany), AmericanElectricPowerServiceCorporation(on behalf of Appalachian Power Company, Columbus Southern Power Company, Indiana Michigan Power Company, Kentucky Power Company, Kingsport Power Company, Ohio Power Company, and Wheeling Power Company), The Dayton Power and Light Company, Exelon Corporation (on behalf of Commonwealth Edison Company and Commonwealth Edison Company of Indiana, Inc.), FirstEnergy Corp. (on behalf of American Transmissio n Systems, Inc., The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, and The Toledo Edison Company), Illinois Power Company, and Northern Indiana Public Service Company. Two members of the proposed Alliance RTO,

MidwestRegionalTransmissionOrgan ization("RTO").Forthereasonsdiscussedherein,

Michigan opposes The Alliance Companies' petition and urges the Commission to

dismissit. OnMarch5,2002ConsumersEnergyfiledamotioninDocketNo.RT01 -88000, etal., requestingtheCommissiontova catetheSettlementin IllinoisPowerCo .95

FERC¶61,183(2001), reh'gdenied,96FERC¶61,026(2001)(MotionforApprovalof

AlternateProposal). Forthereasonsdiscussedherein,Michigansupportsthatproposal.

### IV.

### SUMMARYOFPETITIONFORDECLARATORY ORDER

According to the Alliance Companies, further negotiations with the Midwest ISO will not be productive and this petition is the final attempt to accommodate Alliance GridCo as a viable transmission business underneath the Midwest ISO umbrella. Specifically, Petitioners assert that if Alliance GridCo is to participate within the Midwest RTO, the Commission must issue an order granting their petition with the following findings:

- 1. That the functional and operational relationship between the Midwest RTOa ndAllianceGridCosetforthintheAffidavitofNickWinserforms a reasonable basis for the participation of Alliance GridCo within the MidwestRTO;
- 2. That Alliance GridCo should be permitted to use its own systems for the timely and cost -efficient start of operations;
- 3. That prices for services purchased by Alliance GridCo from the Midwest ISO should be priced at the Midwest ISO's reasonably -incurred costs, subject to verification and audit;
- 4. That the transition period rate design and revenue distribution methodologydescribedintheAffidavitofJ.StephenHendersonshouldbe adoptedfortheMidwestRTOandAllianceGridCo;and

Dominion Virginia Power Company and Consumers Energy Company (and its affiliate, Michigan Electric Transmission Company) did not join in the Petition.

5. That the Midwest ISO should refund \$60 million, plus interest, to the IllinoisCompanies.

# V. SUMMARYOFPROTEST

The conditions requested by the Alliance Companies in order to participate in the Midwest RTO demonstrate why negotiations have not been going well with the Midwest ISO; there is a fundamental disagreement between the parties regarding what the Commission has directed them to do. The demands of the Alliance Companies simply do not fit with the views of either the Midwest RTO or the Midwest State Commissions regarding what the Commission intended. For this reason, the Midwest State Commissions agree that prompt Commission action is needed to bring the Alliance Companies under the Midwest RTO umbrella.

The fundamental problem with several aspects of the Alliance Companies

proposal -- particularly those related to division of functions -- is that they leave the

Alliance Comp anies, not as an ITC under MISO, but as a quasi -- separate RTO -- an

outcometheCommissionrejectedinitsDecember20orderin AllianceCos.,97FERC¶

61,327(2001).Otherissues, such as rate design and compensation for past investments

are appropriate for later resolution after hearing and should not be held hostage to the

Alliance Companies' demands for acceptance of its model -- a model that would

compromise the independence of the Midwest RTO.

The Midwest State Commissions submit that the Commission should take the following actions:

- 1. Clarifythatthe *IllinoisPowerCo*. Settlementismootwithrespecttoall ofitsprovisions.
  - 2. Reject the Petitioners' attempt to retain numerous functions that are appropriatelyperformedbytheRTOexc lusively.

- 3. Establish procedures to determine the appropriate payments by the Alliance Companies for services provided by the MISO, taking into account facilities used by MISO to provide such services and systems provided to MISO by the Alliance Companies.
- 4. Establish procedures to determine the extent, if any, to which the Alliance Companies' systems developed to date can be used by MISO for providing transmissionserviceundercontroloftheMidwestRTO.
- 5. Establish procedures to determine the circumstances under which it would be reasonable for MISO to refund some or all of the \$60 million to the Illinois Companies.

## VI.

### **PROTEST**

The Commission in its December 20, 2001 order in Alliance Companies , 97 FERC¶61,327(2001),madeclearthat:

The public interest would be best served if the Alliance Companies were to join in Midwest ISO. Of the two proposed RTOs, Alliance RTO and Midwest ISO, we believe that the Midwest ISO, because it is further along in its development and more fully complies with Order 2000 , represents the foundation upon which a single Midwest RTOshould be built. While we cannot approve Alliance RTO as a stand - alone RTO, we are confident that it can be a successful transcounder the Midwest ISO's Appendix I. Therefore, we direct Alliance Companies to explore how their business plan (including National Grid) can be accommodated within the Midwest ISO, e.g., via Appendix I.

97FERC¶61,327at62,531.

OnJanuary22,2002,InternationalTransmissionCompanyfiledarequestthatthe

Commission clarify a potential ambiguity regarding its directives to the Alliance

Companies.InternationalTransmissionmaintainedthattheDecember20Orderdirected

theAllianceCompanies'transmissionownerstonegotiatewithMISOtheirparticipation

inaM idwestRTOunderthetermsofAppendixIoftheMISOAgreement."Requestfor

RehearingofInternationalTransmissionCo.,"DocketNos.RT01 -88 etal. ,filedJanuary

22, 2002 at 4 -5. This, International Transmission argued, was the clear intent of the Commission's December 20 Order and was, in fact, reflected in the Commission's press release describing the order. *Id.* A coalition of municipal utilities, end users and consumer groups filed a similar pleading on January 18, 2002. "Motion for Clarification of Coalition of Municipal and Cooperative Users of Alliance Transmission et al.," Docket No.RT01-88 *et al.* (January 18, 2002).

By contrast, the Alliance Companies argued that the December 20 order merely directed them to work out an acceptable arrangement w ith MISO that would allow the Alliance Companies to operate under the MISO "umbrella" in some unspecified way not necessarily under the terms of Appendix I. See Answer of Alliance Companies to Motionsfor Clarification ,DocketNos.RT01 -88 etal(fil edFebruary4,2002).

In the interim, and pending the Commission's clarification, the Alliance Companies and MISO have spent considerable time innegotiations but have come to an impasse. In their joint letter of March 6, 2002, the States Commission's of Michigan, Kentuckyand Illinois responded to a February 19, 2002 report of the Alliance Companies on the status of these negotiations which had laid the blame for lack of agreement on the alleged obstructive presence and opposition of MISO stakeholders. The problem, the three states explained, lay not in the presence of what the Alliance Companies termed "intractable" stakeholders, but due to the following facts: (1) Alliance Transco had not achieved full independence from the transmission owners, and (2) the Alliance Companies, unlike MISO, had never come to accept that it needed to work with its stakeholders to succeed. Joint Letter of the State Commissions of Kentucky, Michigan and Illinois at 1 -2. Alliance Companies, Docket No. RT01 -88-016 (March 6, 2002).

Accordingly,theStatesurgedtheCommissiontorequirethatAllianceGridCocomeinto the Midwest RTO as an ITC under Appendix I or, if it could not achieve sufficient independence to qualify as an ITC in the short term, the Alliance Companies TransmissionownersshouldinsteadcomeintotheRTOastransmissionowners,againin accordancewiththetermsofAppendixI:

StateCommissionsurgetheCommissiontosendamessagetoAlliance:If it is not clear from the December 19 Order [sic] already, the All iance CompanieshavetwooptionsforparticipationinMISO --theycanjoinas individualtransmissionownersortheycanseekqualificationasaTransco underthetermsofAppendixI.Iftheychoosethelatteroption,becauseit is closer to their "busin ess model," but cannot assure through National Grid the Transco's independence within a reasonable period, then, as stakeholders suggest, the individual Alliance companies should, in the interim,joinMISOastransmissionowners.

Theseconcernsarediscus sedbelow.

# A. The Commission Should Clarify That the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement Is Moot and Unjust and Unreasonable In Light of the Rejection of the Alliance RTO.

A fundamental cause of the failure of the settlement process to achieve a resolution of the issues associated with the Alliance Companies joining the Midwest RTO appears to be an erroneous assumption by the Alliance Companies that they can continue to rely upon certain elements of the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement "For example, the Alliance Companies are demanding that the Midwest RTO be directed to adopt the transition rate design based on the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement with certain modifications. According to the Alliance Companies, use of that rate design is necessary to compensate the Alliance Companies for lost revenues from the elimination of pancaking.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> IllinoisPowerCo., etal., 95FERC¶61,183(2001), reh'gdenied, 96FERC¶61,026(2001).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Approvedi nPetitionat18.

The Alliance Companies' reliance upon the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement is totally misplaced. The Commission's rejection of the two -RTO concept rendered all of the underlying elements of the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement moot. In particular, the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement rate design was not designed for the much broader MidwestRTO footprint, which now includes many more transmission owners than those covered by the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement as of February 28,2001. Anorisuse of the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement necessary to compensate the Alliance Companies for lost revenue due to the elimination of pancaking. The Alliance Companies' calculation of revenue shifts are based on a stale test period that no longer is representative of the revenues which could potentially be lost due to the elimination of pancaking.

In sum, the *Illinois Power Co*. Settlement is moot and its underlying elements should not be adopted outside of the context of a complex settlement. Instead, if the Alliance Companies are to participate under the umbrella of the Midwest RTO, the Commission should direct that the Midwest RTO rate design be applied to the Alliance Companies as well.

# B. The Allocation of Functions Proposed By The Alliance Companies, In Effect, WouldCreateTwoSeparateRTOMarkets.

The Alliance Companies argue that their proposed agreement with MISO would have allowed Alliance Grid Co, undermanagement by National Grid, to operate under the "umbrella" of the Midwest RTO. The overriding defect in the Alliance Companies' argument as noted earlier, is that it relies on the "umbrella" construct to justify a structure that, in effect preserves two RTOs. In other words, the Alliance Companies hope

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Although Alliance now "commits" to include new members under the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement rate design, such offer failst ore cognize that the settlement rate design was based on the billing determinants of a smaller group of member s.

achieve,undertheumbrellaoftheMidwestRTO,anoperationalscopeandconfiguration that this Commission explicitly rejected in its December 20 Order. The Alliance Companies' proposal is blatantly inconsistent with two fundamental principles under OrderNo. 2000: (1) Parties, both inside and outside the RTO, must be able to transact anywhere within the RTO's boundaries under a single tariff  $^{5}$  and (2) if an ITC is to assume any RTO functions it must be fully independent of any market participants.

The Alliance Companies' proposal calls for a separate tariff for transmission into or out of the Alliance Companies' systems from sellers or buyers in adjacent markets, suchas PJM. This proposal plainly preserves pancaking and erects a barrier against othe r Midwest ISO members from competing in PJM markets. As the Alliance Companies describe the proposal, it wants its own tariff for transactions that "drive into or out of Alliance GridCo provided the transaction does not require reservations and scheduling over non -Alliance Companies' transmission facilities within the Midwest RTO." Appendix C. For example, suppliers seeking to sell into the Alliance Companies from PJM or out of the Alliance Companies into PJM would pay a different rate and have a separate tarifffrombuyersintherestoftheMidwestRTOseekingsuppliesfromPJMor -Alliance part of MISO territory. suppliers in PJM looking to sell to buyer in the non Those sellers and buyers would pay the MISO rate and a separate Alliance tariff rate. While the Alliance Companies assert that their proposal is no different than the agreementthat MISO has entered into with Trans Linktop arcel functions to an ITC under Appendix I, it acknowledges in its Appendix C comparison of the TransLink agreement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>ThequestionofwhetherITCsmayalsoofferalternativetariffservicesissubjecttoCommissionreview onacase -by-casebasis. *See,e.g. InternationalTransmissionCo.*, 97FERC¶61,328at62,549(2001). 
<sup>6</sup>In effect, Alliance would seek to perpetua te the two RTO rate structure under the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement.

andit sproposalthattheTransLinkownersarenotinsistingonthisunsustainabletypeof tarifflimitation. <sup>7</sup>

The Alliance Companies' proposal fares no better in meeting the Order No. 2000 independencetest. The Alliance Companies propose an allocation of func tions between Alliance GridCo and the Midwest RTO that has not been approved and could not be approved unless the Commission were to determine that Alliance GridCo qualifies as an ITC and that its proposed dissection of functions does not delegate too much control and responsibility to Alliance GridCo. Indeed, as to the Alliance Companies' notion of a two tariff model discussed above, Michigan cannot conceive of a basis on which the Commission could approve of that aspecto fits proposal.

The Alliance Companies' claims that its proposal for Alliance Grid Cotocome under the MISO umbrella is the only way to integrate the Alliance Companies' member systems into MISO within a reasonable time frame. This position reflects the Alliance Companies' fixation on preserving its RTO model and ignores the fact that Alliance TOs could be integrated into MISO immediately as TOs.

9 This is not an academic point. There remain substantial questions about the independence of Alliance Grid Co and the continuing role of tran smission owners (who have not divested their interests in

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Appendix Ctothe Alliance Petition for Declaratory Order purports to compare Alliance Grid Cooffer to MISO with TransLink's Appendix I proposal. According to Alliance, if FERC deter mines that TransLink does not qualify a sindependent, it will not be considered an Appendix IIT Candwillins tead be treated as a transmission owner. The Alliance Companies' characterization of the Translink agreement is innacurate.

<sup>8</sup> Alliance's proposal to charge a separate rate for drive in and drive out transactions within the Alliance footprint is, in this respect, dramatically different from proposals that would afford customers within an ITC to chose either the RTO - wide rate or the ITC tariffrate. See *International Transmission Company*, 97 FERC ¶61,328at62,548(2001).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Alliancesaysthatwithouthavingmattersitsway, AllianceTOs'participationinMISOwillbedelayedfor several years whileMISO adapts its software to the Alliance GridCo. T here is no need for delay. Alliance GridCocanonly become part of MISO if it meets Order 2000 in dependence criteria. If it cannot do so, then Alliance TOs can come into MISO immediately. Alternately, it is conceivable that certain Alliance TO's may seekt ojoin other RTO's, such as PJM. The Commission should provide guidance on this alternative

generation) in Alliance GridCo, even after National Grid assumes various management functions. *See*, *e.g. Alliance Cos.*, Docket No. RT01 -88-016, *et al.*, February 26,2002 LetterofSamuelC.Randazzo, Esq.OnbehalfofIndustrialUsers *et al.* 

# C. The Commission Should Establish Procedures to Determine the Appropriate Payments By the Alliance Companies for Joining, and Receiving Services From, the Midwest RTO

The Alliance Companies claim that they should be responsible only for the incremental costs of those services that Alliance GridCo will be purchasing from the Midwest RTO, and that the Midwest ISO should not be allowed to include historic embeddedcostsinthepriceitchargestoAllianceGridC o.

These claims raise two separate costissues: (1) whether the services provided by Midwest RTO should be unbundled and priced according to functions purchased by ITCs; and (2) whether there is any basis for exempting the Alliance Companies from paying their fairs hare of MISO's historicembedded costs.

The Midwest State Commissions agree that MISO's services should be unbundled so that ITCs pay for those services that they use. The extent of necessary unbundling, however, cannot be determined until the Commission resolves the issues relating to the appropriate allocation of RTO functions discussed in Section VI, Part B of this Protest.

Once it is determined which functions may be performed by Alliance GridCo, then the costs and rates for such functions can and should be unbundled from the functions which MISO will be performing for all members.

by making clear that the resulting RTO boundaries and geographic scope must be logical and promote, rather than create barriers to, competition.

<sup>10</sup>Thisunbundling issue,inthecontextofotherITCs,iscurrentlysetforhearingin <u>MidwestISO</u> Docket No.ER02 -111-000.97FERC¶61,268(2001).Presumably,theoutcomeofthatcasecouldcontrolhere.

There is no basis in the current record for exempting the Alliance Companies from paying their fair share of MISO's historicembedded costs. Instead of satis fyingits burden of explaining why certain MISO start -up costs and facilities will not be used to provide service, the Alliance Companies simply claim that they have incurred approximately \$90 million in start -upcosts and that the Midwest ISO has incurred \$160 million in start -up costs. Therefore, according to the Alliance Companies, it would be in equitable to require the Alliance Companies to be forced to subsidize the Midwest ISOby having Midwest ISO's historically embedded costs allocated to them, par ticularly where the Alliance Companies have been "more efficient" (comparing \$90 million to \$160million). 11

The major flaw in the Alliance Companies' position is that it assumes, without support, that MISO has expended money on start -upcosts and facilities that will not be used to provide service to Alliance GridCo. Second, the Alliance Companies assume, without support, that all of its \$90 million were spent on facilities which cannot be used bytheMidwestRTOtoprovideservicetotheAllianceCompani es.

Theresolution of the costre covery issues associated with MISO and the Alliance Companies start -up and historic embedded costs should begin by placing the burden on the Alliance Companies of proving that MISO has incurred embedded costs for facilities that are not used to provide service to the Alliance Companies. In addition, the Alliance Companies should be required to demonstrate that the Alliance Companies have incurred embeddedcostsforfacilitiesthatcouldbeusedby MISO to provide RTO servi ces. The resultofsuchprocesscouldformabasisforassigningembeddedfixedcostresponsibility to the Alliance Companies, including the allocation of an appropriate credit for any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>TheAllianceCompanies'Petitionat12 -13.

Alliance facilities that could be used by MISO to provide the RTO serv ices to the AllianceCompanies. 12

Totheextentcosts incurred by MISO or the Alliance Companies are determined to be stranded and not used and useful in providing service, then procedures need to be established to determine a fair allocation of such costs, including an analysis of whether they were prudently incurred. On this latter point, the Alliance Companies' incurrence of substantial costs after the Commission's Order issued on July 12, 2001, <sup>13</sup> directing the Alliance Companies, "from the date of this O rder" to establish an independent board "to make all business decisions for the RTO" raises serious questions regarding the prudence of the Alliance Companies's actions. See, e.g. Minnesota Power & Light Co., 11 FERC ¶ 61,312 at 61,645 (1980); Public Service Company of Colorado, 90 FERC ¶ 61,285 (2000).

The Midwest State Commissions recognize that these cost issues raise factual questions requiring further development of a record. In this respect, the Midwest States Commissions suggests that it may make se nse to defer the unbundling issues until the Commission resolves the allocation of RTO functions. At that juncture, the parties should be directed to utilize settlement procedures to negotiate a fair resolution of these cost issues which takes into account the extent to which MISO's embedded costs relate to

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>TheMidwestState Commission's are concerned about the increasing level of investment insoftware models by MISO and Alliance and the extent to which such investments are duplicative, or worse, mutually exclusive. While the Midwest State Commissions support efforts to integrate Alliance's own systems into the MISO in frastructure in order to minimize further waste and duplication, the Midwest State Commissions do not support Alliance's request to allow it to manage and operate its own systems. Obviously, it would not be appared without input from a stakeholder process and review by an independent board to have control over operating systems. The extent to which Alliance is allowed to retain and operate its own systems must be closely reveiwed by the Commission in connection with the Commission's determination of the appropriate allocation of RTO functions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> AllianceCompanies ,etal.,96FERC¶61,052at61,135(2001).

facilities used to serve the Alliance Companies. In the meantime, the Commission should promptly commence a process to determine a reasonable allocation to the Alliance Companies of the embedded fixed costs of MISO's facilities used to serve the Alliance Companies.

# D. The Alliance Companies' Demand for Return of the \$60 million Paid by the Illinois Companies Is Internally Inconsistent With Its Other Positions

The Alliance Companies claims that the \$60 m illion paid by the Illinois Companies as an exit fee to MISO should be returned, with interest, if such companies rejointhe Midwest RTO as part of Alliance GridCo.

The Midwest Commissions agree, at least conceptually, that if a company pays an exit fee a ndthen returns a sacustomer, there may be a basis for refunding some or all of the exit fee to that customer. The level of refunds, of course, would depend on the cost responsibility assumed by the returning customer. In this respect, the position take nby the Alliance Companies that they should be responsible only for incremental costs is inconsistent with the return of the \$60 million exit fee.

The Illinois Companies paid the Midwest ISO\$60 million in order to compensate the Midwest ISO for costs inc urredon behalf and in contemplation of serving the Illinois Companies. The Illinois Companies are not, however, proposing to return as direct members of the Midwest ISO and to pay a fully allocated share of all of the Midwest ISO's embedded costs. Inste ad, the Illinois Companies are proposing to join Alliance. This distinction has two important consequences. First, the Alliance Companies are proposing to purchase and payonly for a very limited number of RTO services from the Midwest RTO. Second, the Alliance Companies are proposing to pay none of the embedded fix costs of those services provided to it. Under this structure, the Midwest

ISO would be receiving little, if any, reimbursement of costs incurred to serve the Illinois' Companies prior to the ir departure from the Midwest ISO. Therefore, there wouldbenoequitablereasonforrefundingthefull\$60million.

 $In short, the resolution of this is sue must be deferred until the Commission \\ determines the allocation of RTO functions and the underlying cost responsibility of the \\ Alliance Companies for the embedded fixed costs of the Midwest ISO. Only after \\ determining the Illinois Companies responsibility for fixed costs can an equitable case be \\ supported for refunding some or all of the \$60 million.$ 

### **CONCLUSION**

The current controversy illustrates why the time has come for the Commission to define the functional split between what the Midwest RTO must do and what the Alliance Companies may do, if they wish to join as a subsidiary organization, in the context of an arrangement that results in a seamless market place without pancaking. The Commission is asked to provide this guidance with recognition that the *Illinois Power Co.* Settlement is based on premises that no longer apply, that the integration of the Alliance Companies into a Midwest RTO requires assessment of what facilities are used to serve the resulting

expandedentityandhowcoststhereofshouldberecovered,andthattheactualcoststobe

recoveredcanandshouldawaitresolutionofthese

precedentmatters.

# Respectfullysubmittedonbehalfof:

# STATEOFMICHIGAN, MICHIGANPUBLICSERVICE COMMISSION

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Dated:March28,2002

## **CERTIFICATEOFSERVICE**

IherebycertifythatIhavethisdayservedacopyoftheforegoingdocumentbyfirstclass mail upon each party on the offi cial service list compiled by the Secretary in this proceeding.

DatedatWashington,D.C.,this28	"dayofMarch2002.
	DavidD'Alessandro